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COMMANDERS DIGEST

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President Sees End To U.S. Combat Role In Vietnam

Artist's Concept Of The AV-8A Harrier Aircraft

"We now see the end of America's combat role in Vietnam . . ." President Nixon told the Nation on an hour-long telecast in January during a "conversation" with representatives of the three major commercial radio-television networks and the Public Broadcasting System.

"We have not yet ended the war in Vietnam," the President said, adding, "I had hoped that we would have by this time . . .

"American casualties in the last year of the previous Administration were 14,500, and the casualties this year are 4,200. This is still much too high."

He continued: "We are on the way out, and we are on the way out in a way

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World's First V/STOL Aircraft To U.S. Marine Corps

The Marine Corps has received the first four of a planned 30 AV-8A Harrier aircraft, the only operational jet in the world with a vertical/short takeoff and landing capability.

The Harriers were delivered to the Marine Corps in the United Kingdom where they have been part of the Royal Air Force since April 1969.

Congress authorized 12 of the aircraft in Fiscal Year 1970, with an additional 18 authorized for FY 1971. The Marine Corps plans to buy the aircraft up through June 1974, giving it three operational squadrons and one training squadron.

The Harrier is a single seat, single fan-jet light attack aircraft. It will be armed with Sidewinder missiles, 30mm guns and a variety of bombs and weapons, the Marine Corps said.

By using old runways, roads, or any hard surfaced area the Harrier will provide close support during amphibious operations and at austere forward bases.

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Memorial Services For Late Dr. King

Hundreds of Department of Defense employes, including a number of civilian and military dignitaries, gathered at a memorial service on the Pentagon Concourse Jan. 15 to pay tribute to the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Deputy Secretary of Defense David Packard had authorized a liberal leave policy for Department of Defense civilians and military personnel.

Friday (Jan. 15) marked the anniversary of the birth of the slain civil rights leader.

The memorial service included organ music, hymns and remarks and prayers, scripture readings and a sermon by military chaplains representing each of the Services.

President Sees End To U.S. Combat Role In Vietnam

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that will bring a just peace, a kind of peace that will discourage that kind of aggression in the future, and that will build, I hope, the foundation for a generation of peace."

The "conversation" covered broad areas of domestic and foreign problems and policies, economics and inflation, and other subjects, but later returned again to the subject of Vietnam.

ASKED TO CLARIFY his policy on the bombing of North Vietnam following a U.S. air strike against targets there several weeks earlier, President Nixon said:

> *"I have no desire to resume the bombing of North Vietnam. We do not want to go back to the bombing of the strategic targets in North Vietnam, and we do not want even to bomb military targets unless it becomes necessary to do so—and this is the key point—to protect American forces."*

The President said that there had been an "understanding" following the November, 1968, bombing halt of targets in North Vietnam, that provided for unarmed reconnaissance planes to "fly over North Vietnam with impunity."

So, he continued, "when they fire on those planes, I have given instructions that we will take out the SAM site or whatever it is that has fired upon them.

"We will continue to do so, and if they say that there is no understanding in that respect, then there are no restraints whatever on us, and so we must have that in mind."

REGARDING THE VIETNAMIZATION program and withdrawal of American combat forces from that area, Mr. Nixon said, "In May of this year, most American combat forces—ground combat forces—will have been withdrawn from Vietnam. But there will still be 280,000 there left to withdraw."

We must continue reconnaissance, the President said.

"If the enemy, at a time we are trying to de-escalate, at a time we are withdrawing, starts to build up its infiltration, starts moving troops and supplies through the Mu Gia Pass and the other passes, then I, as Commander in Chief, will have to order the bombing strikes on those key areas."

Mr. Nixon further re-stated his policy: "When I made my speech on November 3, I warned the North Vietnamese then that if at a time that we were withdrawing they stepped up their infiltration and threatened our remaining forces, that I would retaliate.

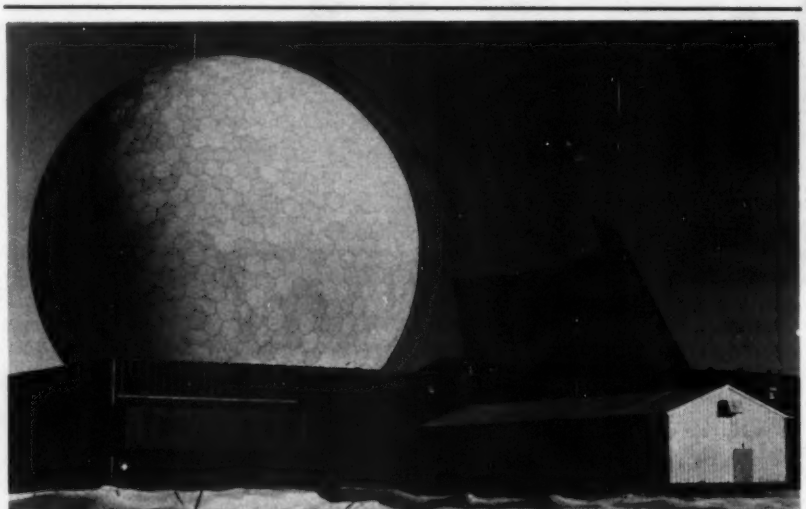
"I have said that on eight different occasions on national television and national radio. I have said it also in other messages to them that have gotten to them very loud and very clear."

One of the correspondents asked what the President would do, if, in a hypothetical situation in 1972, when few U.S. troops would be left in Vietnam, the North Vietnamese were to launch a successful offensive.

The President replied, "Our Vietnamization policy has been very carefully drawn up, and we are withdrawing in a measured way on the basis that the South Vietnamese will be able to defend themselves as we withdraw, and it is working."

He pointed out that all U.S. naval combat forces have already been removed from South Vietnam, and that the South Vietnamese Navy has taken over.

The President concluded that he was convinced that the South Vietnamese "will be able to hold their own and defend themselves in 1972 . . ." and added: "I am simply not going to borrow trouble by saying that I expect them to fail. I don't think they will."



EARLY WARNING—Looking akin to a huge tennis ball, a U.S. Air Force Aerospace Defense Command (ADC) radar continually scans the North American horizon, watching for a possible ICBM attack. The tennis ball, in reality an enclosure for a tracking radar, sits among three detection radar screens. One is at right. With a detection and tracking range of thousands of miles, this isolated radar outpost at Clear Air Force Station, Alaska, maintains a 24 hour guard against possible hostile missiles and satellites. ADC has three such Ballistic Missile Early Warning System (BMEWS) sites: one in Alaska, one at Thule, Greenland, and one at Fylingdales Moor in England. ADC's BMEWS sites are in constant communication with the North American Air Defense Command Headquarters, Colorado Springs, Colo., ready to give America instant warning in the event of a missile attack.

CENTO CHAIRMANSHIP—U.S. Army Lieutenant General John A. Heintges (left) receives the gavel of office as Chairman of the Central Treaty Organization's Permanent Military Deputies Group (PMDG) from the outgoing Chairman, Lieutenant General Javad K. Garabaghi, Iranian member of the group. The CENTO Permanent Military Deputies Group represent the CENTO Military Committee and is composed of five senior officers of the rank of lieutenant general from the five CENTO countries of Iran, Pakistan, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. The group is stationed at Ankara and its chairmanship rotates among the five members once every six months.

CHAMPUS Officials Give Advice On Payments To Civilian Doctors

Separate charges by physicians for completing claim forms of the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS) are not authorized, according to CHAMPUS officials.

It was noted that CHAMPUS beneficiaries have the legal and moral right to refuse payment for claim completion charges.

Acceptance by the source of care of a patient as a CHAMPUS beneficiary and submission of a claim form to a CHAMPUS fiscal administrator constitutes an implied agreement to complete the necessary forms as part of the total payment, the officials said.

CHAMPUS beneficiaries are advised to refuse to pay charges for completing the forms and refer such billings to the fiscal administrator.

A list of state fiscal agents is published in the Revised Uniformed Services Health Benefits Program Pamphlet (DOD Pam 3-B) available from all the uniformed services or from the Executive Director, OCHAMPUS, Denver, Colo. 80240.

South Carolina Primary Slated To Fill Late Rep. Rivers' Post

A Special General Election will be held April 27 in the 1st Congressional District of South Carolina to fill the office formerly held by the late U.S. Representative L. Mendel Rivers.

The Republican primary to nominate a candidate will be February 20. The Democratic primary, February 23.

Legal residents of the 1st Congressional District of South Carolina who are members of the Armed Forces, spouses of members of the Armed Forces, and members of the Merchant Marine may register and vote while absent from their voting precinct. Civilian employes of the Federal Government serving overseas who are U.S. citizens may also register and vote while absent.

While registration must be accomplished at least 30 days before an election, late application for the primary election will be treated as an application for registration for the General Election in April.

Application for absentee registration should be sent to the Board of Registration, county of residence, requesting a blank "Absentee Registration Card."

Application for absentee ballots may be sent to the Board of Registration, county of residence, or to the Secretary of State, Columbia, S.C. 29211.

Civil Service Commission Ruling Eliminates Some GS-9 Exams

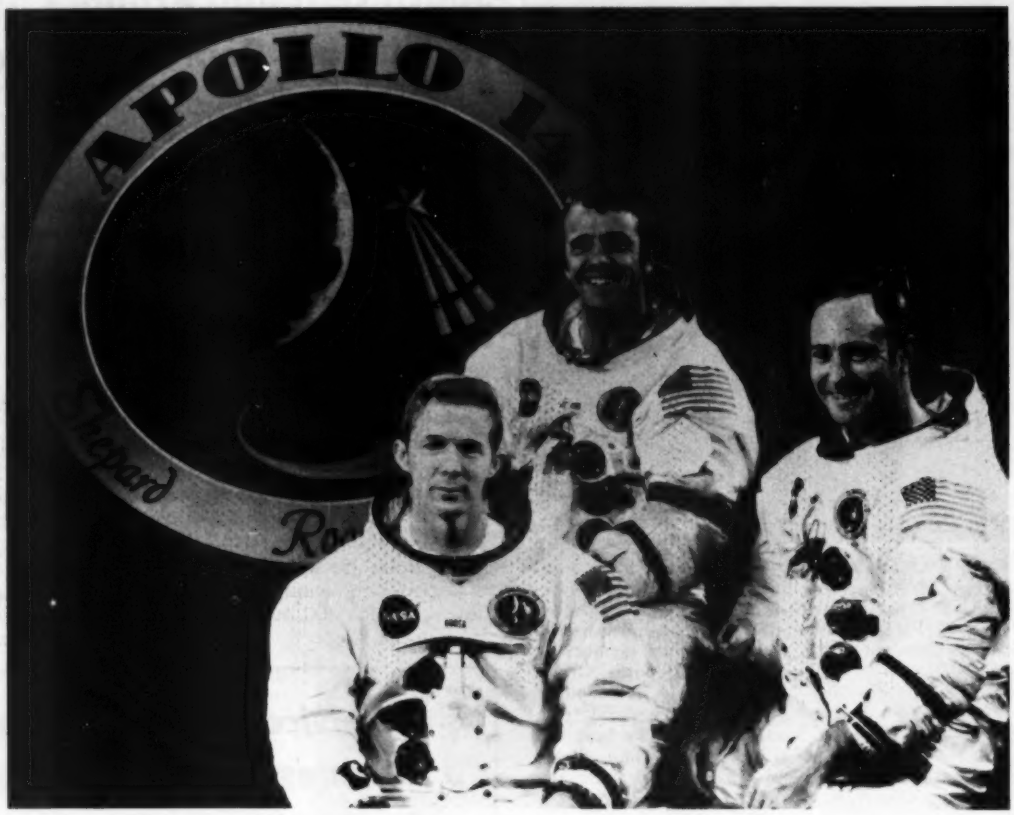
Federal agencies have been instructed not to require displaced employes at GS-9 and above to take the Federal Service Entrance Examination (FSEE) written test before considering them for trainee positions at GS-5 or GS-7.

Although agencies may still use the tests in conjunction with other devices, it can no longer be used on a pass or fail basis for in-service actions, including reinstatement of displaced employes.

The Civil Service Commission's view is that the FSEE written test is not necessary for properly evaluating a displaced employe who previously was performing at grade level GS-9 or above. By the very definition of these grade levels, according to the Commission, employes who have reached them have already demonstrated the ability to learn and progress in a demanding line of work.

This demonstrated performance is a better piece of information to use in evaluating these employes than the FSEE written test, which is designed to predict learning ability, it was pointed out.

These instructions are outlined in Civil Service Commission Bulletin No. 332-17.



From left, Astronauts Roosa, Shepard, Mitchell

The Apollo 14 Mission—January 31

By JO1 Bob Lincoln, USN
USN-NASA Photos

For years, climbing enthusiasts have traveled hundreds of miles to conquer such natural giants as Mount Everest, the Matterhorn and Mount Fuji "because they are there," but to go all the way to the Moon to climb a 600-foot crater . . . !

Even though their reasons are based on more than the pure adventurism of their earth-bound counterparts, Apollo 14 Astronauts Alan Shepard and Edgar Mitchell intend doing just that when they reach the lunar surface in February. Their target is a flat highland region near the moon's face north of the crater *Fra Mauro*.

Astronaut Shepard, a Navy captain and the Nation's first man in space, and rookie spaceman Mitchell, a Navy commander, will have several other experiments to complete during their two-excursion, 30-hour stay on the lunar surface. The launch date is set for January 31.

While the two crater-climbing spacemen carry out their down-to-the-moon assignments, the third member of the team, Air Force Major Stuart Roosa, will be circling some 70 miles overhead in the Command Module. He is tasked to take pictures of the Moon's surface to pinpoint possible future landing sites. Scientists are hoping that Roosa's pictures will also aid them in detecting and determining the nature of the mysterious lunar quakes.

APOLLO 14, a new and more sophisticated craft, is a replacement for last April's near-disasterous Apollo 13. The new craft has been outfitted with a third, separate oxygen tank— a special auxiliary battery and other major modifications to reduce the risks of it becoming another cliff-hanger as its ill-fated predecessor.

The crew has chosen the names 'Kitty Hawk' and 'Antares' respectively, for their Command and Lunar Landing Mod-

ules. Astronaut Shepard, America's oldest active spaceman, is the Mission Commander, while Astronaut Mitchell is the Lunar Module Pilot and Roosa is the Command Module Pilot.

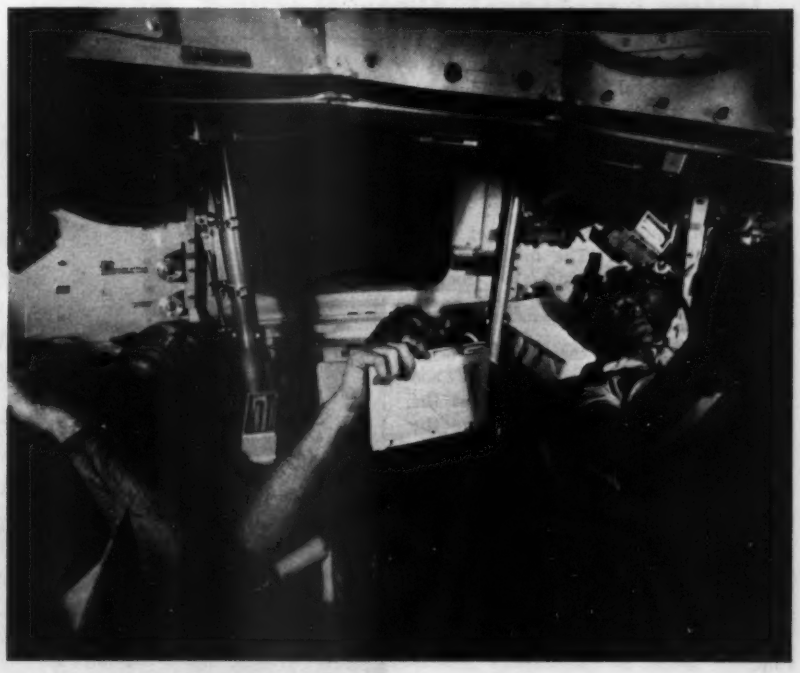
Astronauts Shepard and Mitchell plan to set 'Antares' down near the hilly *Fra Mauro* crater early on February 5. The area is believed to be littered with debris from the Sea of Rains, *Mare Ibrium*, which was presumably formed by a massive meteorite impact billions of years ago.

Although their crater-climbing will be most impressive, the moon-walkers will carry with them a sophisticated number of Apollo Lunar Surface Experiment Packages (ALSEP). The packages will include a golf-cart type vehicle which carries a grenade-launching mortar—over 310 feet of cable—three vibration detectors and another cartridge-firing device called the "Thumper."

While Astronaut Shepard is placing various scientific instruments on the surface and gathering rock samples, Astronaut Mitchell will be laying out his cable and sticking vibration detectors into the

(Continued On Next Page)

Above, Astronaut Shepard reaches for an extension handle among the Apollo Lunar Hand Tools (ALHT) on the Modular Equipment Transporter (MET) during a simulation of a lunar traverse. Below, the crew for Apollo 14 mission in position aboard the command module simulator at the Kennedy Space Center, Fla.



At left, Astronaut Shepard is fitted into full pressure suit.

THE RECOVERY TEAM

At left, a helicopter reels in a "Billy Pugh" net with a man aboard during an Apollo 14 practice recovery mission. Above, personnel of underwater Demolition Team 11 ready an inflatable boat beside an Apollo 14 command module mock-up surrounded by its flotation collar during a practice recovery mission. Below, amphibious assault ship USS New Orleans underway off the coast of San Diego.

(Continued From Preceding Page)

soil at 150-foot intervals. As he walks back to a central recording and relay station, he will then fire the "Thumper" every 15 feet to create seismic waves or "echoes."

After firing the last of the cartridges, Astronaut Mitchell will then set up the four-barrel mortar about 10 feet from the central station. The mortar's four explosive grenades will be rocket-launched on radio command from Earth at a later date.

Scientists believe the seismic data, some obtained from as deep as 1,500 feet, will reveal the composition of the Lunar crust and aid in determining the Moon's age.

Oil companies use the same system, on a larger scale, to locate oil-bearing layers in the Earth.

The spacemen plan to head homeward on February 6 for a landing in the Pacific, South of Samoa, three days later. The primary recovery ship is the USS New Orleans, an amphibious assault ship.

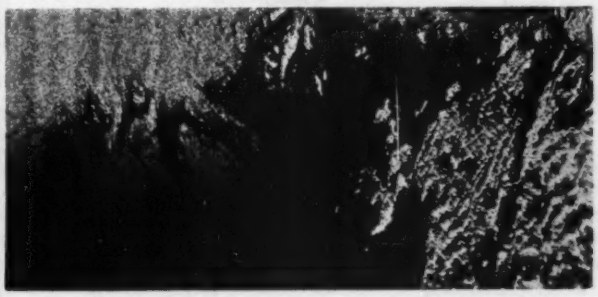
Radar Used To Detect Oil Pollution

Scientists at the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D.C., have discovered that radar can be used to detect and monitor oil spills in the oceans.

N. W. Guinard, head of the Wave Propagation Branch, Electronics Division, revealed details of the technique at the Third Annual Earth Resources Survey Program Review in Houston, Tex. The surprising discovery was made in 1969 when a group from NRL was making studies of the characteristics of radar energy return from the ocean surface. NRL was using its Four-Frequency Radar, installed in a Navy Super Constellation aircraft, when this effect was first noted.

An oil film coating has a smoothing effect on the ocean waves. Consequently, the radar energy reflected from an oil film is less than the energy returned from the surrounding ocean. It was found that when radar mapping oil contaminated areas, an oil slick appears as a dark area with the surrounding uncontaminated areas appearing lighter in contrast.

There are several advantages in using radar to monitor oil



A Naval Research Laboratory photograph showing oil pollution in the ocean (dark areas) obtained by radar techniques. The oil dampens the waves, hence very little radar return is received, while the uncoated wave reflection is relatively high and is shown as the light areas.

slicks over the present photographic techniques. Radar is able to penetrate clouds and fog, monitor in darkness, and monitor large areas. By flying the radar at high altitudes, a path one-hundred miles wide could be scanned for oil pollution. Daily surveillance of the entire United States coastline becomes a distinct possibility.

Mr. Guinard pointed out that radar could be used in an orbiting unmanned spacecraft to detect and monitor oil pollution over many parts of the world, regardless of weather conditions. Such a monitoring system would not have to be newly developed since most of the equipment needed is already in use.

Radar monitoring of oil slicks is not only of interest to the Navy, but is also of great interest to the U.S. Coast Guard for detecting and monitoring oil spills near the coast. Subsequent tests have been conducted at the request and support of the Coast Guard.

Additional experiments will be conducted to evaluate the sea state range over which oil slick mapping is possible, as well as to determine the ability of the radar to distinguish the type and thickness of the oil film.

END OF 'BROWN WATER NAVY'—Vice Adm. Jerome H. King Jr. (right), commander of U.S. Naval Forces in the Republic of Vietnam, signs the document which officially transfers to the Vietnamese Navy the last 25 of 650 small coastal and river combat craft which have been turned over to the Vietnamese during the past two years. Except for the Navy's air assets, this marked the end of the U.S. "Brown Water Navy." Rear Admiral Tran Van Chon, Chief of Naval Operations for the Vietnamese Navy, accepted the craft during the Dec. 30 ceremony held in Saigon.

Naval Reserve Transfers Control Of 21 Ships To Atlantic Fleet

Operational control of 21 destroyers has been transferred from Commander, Naval Reserve Training to the Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Atlantic Fleet. This is the final phase in placing all Naval Reserve antisubmarine warfare (ASW) training ships under the command of fleet commanders-in-chief.

These destroyers are East and Gulf Coast-based units assigned to Naval Reserve Destroyer Squadrons Thirty and Thirty-Four, and provide training for Naval Reservists in antisubmarine warfare tactics at sea.

Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, a subordinate of the Atlantic Fleet Commander-in-Chief, was charged with command and administration of the 21 destroyers transferred on New Year's Day.

On October 1, 1970, the operational control of 11 ships of Naval Reserve Destroyer Squadron Twenty-Seven was transferred from the Naval Reserve Training Command to the Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

This change in Naval Reserve training afloat is the result of a major proposal of the Naval Reserve Forces Study to improve operational training. Naval Reservists will now train under the same commander who would gain them upon mobilization.

The 21 destroyers were under the operational control of RAdm. Edwin M. Rosenberg, Commander of Naval Reserve Training, with headquarters in Omaha.

Public vs DoD Spending Reviewed By Comptroller

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) Robert C. Moot said he does not believe many people appreciate the extent to which a reordering of national priorities and re-allocation of national resources has taken place.

For example, there are those who talk about the need to curtail the "increase" in defense spending; the need to start "reducing" defense spending, and the need to "divert" defense funds to domestic programs and other areas.

THERE ARE THOSE who blame defense spending for inflation and other domestic ills, but never use any data except that which is applicable to defense spending.

Speaking before the Aerospace Industrial Association in Clearwater, Fla., Mr. Moot added that "we never hear speeches which use comparable data covering spending in the public sector for other than defense programs."

From 1964 to the 1971 budget year, he said, defense spending shows a cumulative increase of $116 billion. It is to this amount that critics of Defense point when they blame Defense for inflation, for deficits and for other economic problems.

THESE SAME CRITICS, he said, do not point out that in the same period, other public spending increased $442 billion. They do not say that defense spending accounted for only some 20 per cent of the increased public spending in this period.

Critics do not explain that while defense spending increased by 41 per cent in this period, other federal spending increased by 90 per cent and state and local spending by 109 per cent. They do not highlight, he continued, the fact that public spending for other than defense is increasing at an annual rate of $22.9 billion while defense for the past three years is decreasing at an annual rate of $2.1 billion. (See chart.)

A review of total public spending trends indicates clearly, he said, "that a re-allocation of national resources has already taken place, perhaps without the knowledge of defense critics. It also seems quite evident that domestic programs have not suffered for resources during the past six or seven years . . ."

The Domestic Priorities Problem

	MILITARY	OTHER FEDERAL	STATE AND LOCAL	TOTAL GOVERNMENT
PUBLIC SPENDING FY 1964	$50.8 B	$67.8 B	$55.3 B	$173.9 B
		$123.1		
CUMULATIVE INCREASE FY 1964 TO FY 1971	116.0 B	175.0	267.0	558.0
		442.0		
PUBLIC SPENDING FY 1971	71.8 B	129.0	115.8	316.6
		244.8		
AVERAGE ANNUAL CHANGE IN SPENDING - PAST THREE YEARS	$-2.1 B	$+22.9		$20.8

Mr. Moot pointed out that over the past six years resources applied to peacetime forces of the Defense Department have been reduced significantly.

THE REDUCTION in resources, he said, "was re-allocated to partially offset the escalating cost of the war from 1965 to 1968."

The extent of this erosion of resources for peacetime forces amounts to $6 billion at an annual rate and cumulatively from Fiscal Year 1964 exceeds $35 billion, Mr. Moot explained.

On a comparable basis (constant 1964 dollars) the Fiscal Year 1971 resource level for peacetime forces of $44.8 billion is the lowest allocation of Federal Budget dollars for such purposes since the 1950-51 period.

Mr. Moot explained, however, that in that 1950-51 period, the balance of power in the world was significantly different than today. For example, the USSR did not have a strategic nuclear force. The United States was not obligated under Free World agreements such as those of the NATO and SEATO communities, and the world had not yet seen the resurgence of the Peoples Republic of China.

He pointed out how current U.S. foreign policy is guided by the Nixon Doctrine and reviewed its purpose in the following way:

THIS SIGNIFICANT new Doctrine, while honoring current U.S. world commitments, transfers greater responsibility to our allies for self protection, particularly in the case of manpower.

"The Nixon Doctrine allows for a smaller standing U.S. Army and provides for greater reliance on military assistance to allies in the form of equipment and training support.

"The Vietnamization Program which is successfully transferring combat and support responsibility from U.S. to Vietnamese forces in an orderly manner is itself a prime example of the Nixon Doctrine in practice.

"ON BALANCE, the Nixon Doctrine will result in some reductions in defense resources requirements."

COMMANDERS DIGEST

THIS PUBLICATION CONTAINS OFFICIAL INFORMATION, NEWS AND POLICY, DIRECT FROM WASHINGTON AUTHORIZED SOURCES.

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